

University of Calgary
Department of Sociology
SOCI 325: INTRODUCTION TO DEVIANCE AND SOCIAL CONTROL
SPRING 2010 COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor: Heather Rollwagen
Email: harollwa@ucalgary.ca (*Email is my preferred method of contact*)
Office: Social Sciences 1047
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00 – 3:00pm (or by appointment)
Phone: (403) 220 – 3215
Prerequisites: SOCI 201 or permission of the instructor
Class Times: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11am – 1:45pm
Class Location: Science Theatre 127

Emergency Evacuations: In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of the classroom, please proceed to the assembly point in the Social Science Food Court.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The study of deviance and crime is interdisciplinary, comprising areas such as sociology, psychology, law, philosophy, communications and biology. While each of these areas has made important contributions to our understanding of crime and deviance, the focus of this course will be on the sociology of deviance and social control. As stated in the University Calendar, this course provides you with a systematic analysis of theories of deviant, delinquent and criminal behaviours and the social responses to them. The theories we will study examine topics such as the nature of crime and deviance, the process of defining behaviour as deviant and/or criminal, the function of deviance in the broader social system, the process through which deviant identities are formed and maintained, and the relationship of deviance to the broader social, economic and political organization of society. We will consider how each of these theories is applied in sociological research and crime control policy.

A significant portion of this class will involve classroom discussion. Questioning our taken-for-granted assumptions about the nature of crime and deviance is an important way in which we can develop a sociological understanding of these issues. Discussions may be conducted in small groups or as a class. You are strongly encouraged to participate in these discussions, as they will form an important part of the learning process. I hope you enjoy the class, and invite you to come speak to me at any time if you would like to discuss some issues in more depth, or if you have any questions or concerns.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

In this course, you will learn to:

- Think critically about the meaning of deviance and social control
- Describe, compare and contrast a selection of theories of deviance and social control
- Use theory to better understand current issues in crime and criminal justice
- Apply sociological theories of crime to specific crime control practices
- Consider the way crime and deviance are constructed through social processes
- Situate issues of crime, deviance and social control in the broader organization of society

REQUIRED TEXTS

**BOTH TEXTS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE CAMPUS BOOKSTORE*

Adler, Patricia A. and Peter Adler. (2009) *Constructions of Deviance: Social Power, Context, and Interaction, 6th edition*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth. ISBN-13: 978-0-495-50429-0

Goode, Erich and D. Angus Vail. (2008) *Extreme Deviance*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Pine Forge Press. ISBN-13: 978-1-4129-3722-1

ASSESSMENT

Component	Date	Value (as % of final grade)
Mid-term exam	Tuesday, June 8 (in class)	50% if no term paper written 30% if term paper written
<i>Optional</i> term paper	Thursday, June 24 (submit in class)	40%
Final exam	Registrar scheduled (TBA)	50% if no term paper submitted 30% if term paper submitted

Grades will be assigned based on the following scale:

A+	96-100	B+	80-84	C+	67-69	D	50-59
A	90-95	B	74-79	C	63-66	F	0-49
A-	85-89	B-	70-73	C-	60-62		

***The grades for a course component may be scaled to maintain equity among sections and to conform to departmental norms.*

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

MID-TERM EXAM

The mid-term exam will be written during class time on Tuesday, June 8, 2010. The exam will cover material from classes 1-6, and will include material covered through lecture, guest speakers, class discussions, films and assigned readings. The exam will be comprised of multiple choice, short answer and long answer questions. This is a closed book exam.

OPTIONAL TERM PAPER

Some students prefer to submit written assignments to taking tests. Therefore, there is an option to write a term paper for this course, which will be worth 40 percent of your final grade. The term paper will provide those students who are interested with the opportunity to explore a topic in crime or deviance from a sociological perspective. Topics could include a specific type of crime or deviance or a crime control policy. The paper is not simply a research paper; rather, you must formulate a sociological question about the topic, and answer this question using sociological theory and research. This paper will not involve any original research. You are encouraged to come speak to me about your topic to ensure you are on the “right track.” Papers will be between 10 and 12 pages, typed and double-spaced. A grading rubric is posted on Blackboard, and you are encouraged to consult this rubric when planning, researching and writing your paper.

FINAL EXAM

The final exam will be written during the Registrar-scheduled exam period. The exam will cover material from classes 8-12, and will include material covered through lecture, guest speakers, class discussions, films and assigned readings. The format will be similar to the mid-term exam. This exam is a closed book exam.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS:

- Keep an open mind. Some people in the class may find some material we cover disturbing, odd, morally reprehensible, extreme or all of the above. While these reactions are expected and certainly valid, this class will focus on examining why individuals engage in deviant behaviour, why individuals react to deviance the way they do, and how deviant behaviour is managed. I encourage you to reflect on your own opinions of deviant behaviour throughout the course.
- Read the assigned readings before class, and be prepared to discuss these readings in class
- When doing the reading, think about the general idea, rather than the specific details. Ask yourself:
 - What is the general idea / thesis / argument presented?
 - How does the author support his/her idea? What empirical evidence is used?
 - How does this reading relate to the other readings assigned for the week?
 - How does this reading relate to previous ideas discussed in the course?
- Take notes during formal lectures, but also during informal class discussions, videos, guest speakers and on all the readings. All this material may appear on an exam.
- If you plan to write a term paper, come see me in my office hours. I am happy to help you formulate a specific sociological question, and assist you in developing your ideas. The earlier you start, the better!

SOME IMPORTANT CLASS POLICIES*Inclusive and Supportive Classroom Environment*

I will do my best to create a space in which you feel comfortable asking questions, discussing the topics and deepening your understanding of the sociology of crime and deviance. Similarly, I will not tolerate any language or behaviour that undermines this safe space. Should you have any concerns, please bring them to my attention.

Use of laptop computers in class

You are permitted to use a computer in class for the sole purpose of taking notes. If it is discovered that you are not using your computer for this purpose, you will be asked to put away the computer, and you will not be permitted to use your computer in class again.

Cell phones

Please try and remember to turn off your cell phone in class. If you must leave your cell phone on or bring a pager to class, please come speak to me so that we may work out an arrangement that will not disrupt the learning or teaching environment of the class.

Late assignments

Unless prior arrangements or proper documentation (i.e. medical certificate) are provided, term papers that are not handed in at the **beginning** of class will be subject to a late penalty of 10 percent for each day the assignment is late (including weekend days).

Email

Email is a great way to get in touch with me regarding administrative issues and questions. However, substantive concerns regarding course material or term papers should be directed to me in person during my office hours. Please note that it may take up to 24 hours to receive a response from me during the week, and I do not respond to emails on the weekend. When emailing me, please include your full name.

Exam Policies and Deferrals (Assignments and Exams)

You must provide me with advance notice if you are unable to take an exam or pass in a term paper on time. All requests for deferral of a course component due to health reasons must be accompanied by written

documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while you have the physical or emotional problem rather than after recovery. Deferred exams may be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. If you have missed an exam for a legitimate reason, you will be able to write a “make up” exam as close to the original exam date as possible, at a time determined by the instructor. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferred exam. Deferred exams will not be granted if it is determined that you have not shown just cause. Please note that requests to defer a final examination or to defer term work past the end of a term go through the Undergraduate Programs Office (UPO) and must be processed by the deadlines that are established in the U of C Calendar. You can find the forms you need online:

Deferred Final Exam Application:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/Winter2008DEFERREDFINALEXAMINATIONS.pdf>

Deferred Term Work Form:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.pdf>

You must submit these deferral forms to the Social Sciences Associate Dean (Students) through the UPO office: Undergraduate Programs Office, 4th Floor, MacEwan Student Centre. Only the Associate Dean approves requests for deferrals which extend beyond the end of a term. Instructors are not involved in such decisions. To make an appointment with the Associate Dean, phone (403) 220-8155.

Ethics

You are advised that any research with human subjects--including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation--must have the approval of the Departmental Ethics Committee. Human subject research is not permitted in writing the optional term paper assigned in this course.

Academic Misconduct

Cheating is regarded as a serious academic offense. Students are advised to consult the University Calendar, which presents a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with cheating, plagiarism, and other academic misconduct.

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP)

This legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside an instructor's office or the Department main office. Term assignments must be returned to students individually, during class, or during my office hours; if you are unable to pick up your assignment you may provide me with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

Safewalk

The University of Calgary provides a “safe walk” service to any location on Campus, including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones, and campus housing. For Campus Security/Safewalk call 220-5333. Campus Security can also be contacted from any of the “Help” phones located around Campus.

Academic Accommodation

Students with a disability, who require academic accommodation, need to register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 295, telephone 220-8237). Academic accommodation letters need to be provided to course instructors no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of class. *It is your responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre and to request academic accommodation, if required.*

Handing in Papers Outside of Class, Return of Final Papers and Release of Final Grades

1. When students are unable to submit papers at class, they should make arrangements to hand in their papers directly to the instructor or teaching assistant rather than at the Sociology Department main office.
2. Final papers will not be returned through the Sociology Department main office. The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, (i.e., outside an instructor’s office, the department office, etc.). Students who want their final papers returned by mail must attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with the paper. Otherwise final papers will only be available for pick-up during the instructor’s office hours at the end of this term or the beginning of the next term.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology department. They are only available online.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF CLASS TOPICS AND ASSIGNED READINGS (subject to change)

Date	Topic	Assigned Readings*
Tuesday, May 18	The sociology of deviance	AA: “On the Sociology of Deviance” (Erikson) GV: “Introduction: The Significance of Extreme Deviance”
Thursday, May 20	Social Control	AA: “An Integrated Typology of Deviance Applied to Ten Middle-Class Norms” (Heckert and Heckert) GV: “Pedophiles and Child Molesters” (Durkin and Hundersmarck) GV: “The Pleasure of Pain” (Apostolides)
Tuesday, May 25	Researching deviance and social control	AA: “Child Abuse Reporting” (Besharov and Laumann-Billings) AA: “Survey of Sexual Behavior of Americans” (Laumann et al) AA: “Researching Dealers and Smugglers” (Adler)
Thursday, May 27	The functions of deviance	AA: “Functionalism: The Normal and the Pathological” (Durkheim) AA: “The Cyberporn and Child Sexual Predator Moral Panic” (Potter and Potter)
Tuesday, June 1	Deviance as strain	AA: “Strain Theory” (Agnew) AA: “Fraud and the American Dream: The Ponzi Scheme” (Trahan et al)
Thursday, June 3	Learning deviance	AA: “Differential Association” (Sutherland and Cressey) AA: “Recreational Ecstasy Users” (Gourley) AA: “Real Punks and Pretenders: The Social Organization of a Counterculture” (Fox) GV: “Tattoos are like potato chips... you can’t have just one” (Vail)
Tuesday, June 8	MID-TERM EXAM	No assigned readings for class today
Thursday, June 10	Managing a deviant identity	AA: “Convicted Rapists’ Vocabulary of Motive” (Scully and Morolla) AA: The Devil Made me Do It: Use of Neutralizations by Shoplifters” (Cromwell and Thurman) GV: “NAAFA: Attempting to Neutralize the stigma of the hugely obese body” (Gimlin) GV: “Living in an Extremely Deviant Body” (personal account) GV: “The World According to NAMBLA: Accounting for Deviance” (de Young)
Tuesday, June 15	Deviance and control	AA: “Control Theory” (Hirschi) AA: “Shifts and Oscillations in Upper-Level Drug Traffickers’ Careers” (Adler and Adler) AA: “Deciding to Commit a Burglary” (Wright and Decker)

Thursday, June 18	Gender and deviance	AA: "Feminist Theory" (Chesney-Lind) AA: "Men who Cheer" (Bemiller) AA: "Sexual Assault on Campus" (Armstrong et al) AA: "Homophobia and Women's Sport" (Blinde and Taub)
Tuesday, June 22	The Social Construction of Deviance	AA: "The Constructionist Stance" (Best) AA: "Relativism: Labeling Theory" (Becker) AA: "The Social Construction of Drug Scares" (Reinarman) AA: "The Mark of a Criminal Record" (Pager) AA: "The Saints and the Roughnecks" (Chambliss)
Thursday, June 24	Power and crime	AA: "Social Power: Conflict Theory of Crime" (Quinney) AA: "War Profiteering: Iraq and Halliburton" (Rothe) GV: "White Supremacy as Extreme Deviance" (Blee) GV: "I Am a Lowbagger" (Roselle)

*AA = Adler & Adler ("Constructions of Deviance" text)

GV = Goode and Vail ("Extreme Deviance" text)